

2017 -- H 5783

LC001623

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, Ruggiero, Phillips, and Tanzi

Date Introduced: March 01, 2017

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 42-13 of the General Laws entitled "Department of Transportation"  
2 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **42-13-2.1. Duties of the department - Rhode works project.**

4 (a) It shall be the responsibility of the department to identify the specific impact of Rhode  
5 Works projects on small businesses to deliver and communicate it to the department of  
6 commerce. The department shall identify the traffic flow to Rhode Island small business  
7 commercial areas as it relates to road and bridge closings due to Rhode Works projects, identify  
8 road and bridge closings, parking restrictions and alterations in traffic patterns to accommodate  
9 road and bridge repairs, including proposed dates of work, road closure and re-routing of any  
10 traffic and parking patterns.

11 (b) The department shall share the information collected in subsection (a) of this section  
12 with the commerce corporation to allow at least four (4) months for the commerce corporation to  
13 review this information, and assist those businesses affected by Rhode Works projects, by  
14 providing strategic and marketing assistance as necessary, and sharing this information with small  
15 businesses in the affected communities and neighborhoods.

16 (c) The commerce corporation shall provide those affected businesses in the construction  
17 areas with actions to provide support to minimize the economic and financial impact upon those  
18 businesses during road and bridge construction, including, but not limited to, mailing by the

1 [commerce corporation to affected businesses and meeting with affected businesses to review](#)  
2 [business plans during construction.](#)

3 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would require the department of transportation to identify the impact of Rhode  
2 Works projects on Rhode Island small businesses commercial areas and provide the commerce  
3 corporation with that information to allow the commerce corporation sufficient time to provide  
4 the affected businesses with support to minimize the economic and financial impact.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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